State Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2001 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 7.3.2001.

Assistance to meet the expenditure for Stopping Sea Erosion

297. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended any financial assistance to Kerala to prevent sea erosion during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any scheme to protect the coast-line natural boundary from sea erosion;

(d) whether it is a fact that State Government's are unable to meet the entire amount of expenditure for the same;

(e) whether Government would consider to evolve any joint venture for the protection of coast-line boundary with the help of State Government; and

(f) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. At present, two schemes are under consideration of Government of India for protection of coast-line from sea erosion in maritime States. One is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), namely, "Critical Anti Erosion Works in Coastal and other than Ganga Basin States" for providing central assistance to maritime States for protection of critical reaches of coastal areas from sea erosion and also river erosion. The other one is Consolidated National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP) for protection of vulnerable coastal reaches from sea erosion in respective States, to be posed for external funding. This Project is still in the formulation stage.

(d) Yes, Sir. State Governments have expressed difficulty in

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completion of coastal protection works in their State due to paucity of funds.

(e) and (f) Primarily the planning, investigation and execution of schemes related to prevention of coastal erosion are the responsibility of State Governments. These are funded by the State Governments from their Plan annual funds provided to the States by the Planning Commission under flood control.

However, to tide over the fund constraint faced by the States in completing anti sea erosion works in their critical costal reaches, a CSS as mentioned in para (c) above has been formulated by this Ministry which has been cleared by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) but is awaiting the approval of Full Planning Commission.

Water harvesting by Group Housing Societies

298. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for promoting water harvesting by private bodies such as Group Housing Societies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to bring out the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) There is no scheme exclusively devoted for promoting water harvesting by private bodies such as Group Housing Societies. However, many rain water harvesting measures are being implemented by various Central and State Government agencies including Non-Government Organisations, to improve the water availability. The Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" at a cost of Rs.25.00 crore. With a view to promoting roof top rain water harvesting, the Ministry of Water Resources has proposed to the Ministry of Urban Development to consider